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Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 HA-05 TRSE-00
ARA-10 EA-10 NEA-11 /110 W
----------041985 191458Z /43
O 191400Z MAY 78 ZFF-4
FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7314
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 CAPE TOWN 1011

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV, SF, WA
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: DRAFT MESSAGE FOR SOUTH AFRICA

REF: USUN 2024,

1. CAPE TOWN FIVE MET TODAY, MAY 19, TO DISCUSS DRAFT MESSAGE AND CONTINGENCY TALKING POINTS FOR USE WITH SAG (REFTEL). THE GROUP AGREED ON SEVERAL SUGGESTED CHANGES TO THE MESSAGE AND TWO ADDITIONS TO THE TALKING POINTS.

2. DRAFT MESSAGE:
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A. PARA 2, FIRST SENTENCE: DELETE WORD "REPEATEDLY." THIS CONFORMS WITH THE TALKING POINTS MADE TO THE SAG ON MAY 10 (USUN 1848).

B. ADD TO LAST SENTENCE OF PARA 2, THE FOLLOWING:
"...WHICH IS TO OBTAIN THE APPROVAL OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

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AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE." SPECIFICITY IN THE REFERENCE
TO OUR OBJECTIVE WILL HELP UNDERSCORE OUR CLARITY OF PURPOSE
AND DETERMINATION TO MOVE AHEAD AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

C. CHANGE THE FIRST SENTENCE OF PARA 3 TO READ:
"HOWEVER, THE TASK OF THE FIVE GOVERNMENTS WOULD BE
SERIOUSLY HAMPERED WERE SOUTH AFRICA TO PROCEED WITH
ITS MOST RECENT PROPOSAL TO HAVE THE ADMINISTRATOR-
GENERAL ISSUE A PROCLAMATION ON THE REGISTRATION OF
VOTERS AND TO IMPLEMENT SUCH PROCLAMATION." WE
HAVE IN MIND THE POSSIBILITY OF THE SAG INTERPRETING
THE SENTENCE AS PROPOSED IN REFFEL AS BEING CONCERNED
ONLY WITH IMPLEMENTATION OF VOTER REGISTRATION AND NOT
WITH A PROCLAMATION WHICH THE AG MIGHT ISSUE SETTING
OUT THE PROCEDURES BUT LEAVING OPEN THE TIME OF IMPLEMENTATION.
AT SOME POINT WE MAY WISH TO EMPHASIZE THE EVEN GREATER DAMAGE
THAT WOULD BE DONE BY ACTUALLY BEGINNING REGISTRATION, BUT IN
OUR INITIAL REACTION WE SUGGEST HOLDING THE LINE AGAINST
PROCLAMATION OF THE REGISTRATION REGULATIONS.

D. IN SECOND SENTENCE OF PARA 3, CHANGE PHRASE "WHO BELIEVE
THAT" TO "WHO NOW STRONGLY ARGUE THAT." WE SUGGEST THIS CHANGE
MORE FORCEFULLY UNDERLINES THE INCREASED SUSPICION IN THE
INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY OF SOUTH AFRICAN INTENTIONS FOLLOWING
CASSINGA.

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E. IN LAST SENTENCE OF PARA 3, CHANGE "NO QUESTION OF"
TO "NO HOPE OF." THE PHRASE "NO QUESTION OF" COULD TEND
TO BE INTERPRETED AS INDICATING THE WESTERN GOVERNMENTS WOULD
BE OPPOSED TO THE IDEA OF THE PRESENCE OF THE UN SPECIAL
REPRESENTATIVE IN NAMIBIA AT THIS STAGE. AS WE SEE IT, THE
POINT WE WANT TO MAKE IS THAT IT IS NOT PRESENTLY POSSIBLE
TO ESTABLISH THE USNR IN THE TERRITORY.

F. SWITCH THE ORDER OF THE FIRST TWO SENTENCES IN PARA 4,
AND CHANGE THE WORDING OF WHAT NOW WOULD BE THE FIRST SENTENCE
TO READ, "THE URGENT NEED TO BRING NAMIBIA TO INDEPENDENCE AS
RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE IS FULLY RECOGNIZED..." SHIFTING THE ORDER OF
THE SENTENCES HIGHLIGHTS THE NEED TO BRING ABOUT INDEPENDENCE
AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE.

G. IN PENULTIMATE SENTENCE OF PARA 4, OMIT PHRASE "TO BE SURE"
AS UNNECESSARY AND SOMEWHAT PUZZLING.

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INR-10 L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 HA-05 TRSE-00
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 CAPE TOWN 1011

3. CONTINGENCY TALKING POINTS:

A. WE BELIEVE VORSTER IS ALMOST CERTAIN TO PROTEST THAT SOUTH AFRICA HAS ALREADY AGREED TO HOLD OFF ANOTHER TWO WEEKS AND THUS, BY THE TIME OF THE PROPOSED PROCLAMATION OF THE REGISTRATION REGULATIONS, FIVE WEEKS WILL HAVE ELAPSED SINCE THE SAG'S ACCEPTANCE OF THE PROPOSAL. HE WILL PROBABLY WANT TO KNOW WHAT TIME FRAME THE CONTACT GROUP HAS IN MIND. IN ANSWER TO THIS QUESTION, WE SUGGEST A RESPONSE ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES: "WE CANNOT AT THIS JUNCTURE PROVIDE A TIME FRAME WITHIN WHICH WE WOULD EXPECT TO BRING THE OTHER PARTIES TO A DECISIVE POINT AND BE IN A POSITION TO GO TO THE
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SECURITY COUNCIL. CLEARLY, THERE WILL HAVE TO PROGRESS WITHIN A REASONABLE PERIOD OF TIME AND WE ARE WORKING ON THAT BASIS. WHAT SOUTH AFRICA DOES AND DOES NOT DO WILL HAVE AND IMPORTANT EFFECT ON THE TIMING."

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B. VORSTER WILL PROBABLY REITERATE THAT THE SAG CONSIDERS
THE PROPOSALS AS FINAL AND DEFINITIVE AND HE MAY SEEK OUT
CONFIRMATION THAT THE WESTERN GOVERNMENTS
DO NOT CONTEMPLATE ANY CHANGES. WE WOULD SUGGEST A RESPONSE
AS FOLLOWS: "THE PASSAGE IN THE FIRST PARAGRAPH OF THE MESSAGE
GIVEN YOU TODAY, STATING THAT THE PROPOSAL OF MARCH 30 CONTINUES
TO REPRESENT IN OUR EYES THE ONLY PRACTICAL SOLUTION TO
THE PROBLEM, SPEAKS FOR ITSELF. AS FOREIGN MINISTER JAMESON
SAID IN HIS SPEECH TO THE UNGA SPECIAL SESSION ON APRIL 25
AND AS OUR FIVE GOVERNMENTS STATED IN THEIR MESSAGE OF MARCH 30
TO YOUR FOREIGN MINISTER, THE PROPOSAL HAS OUR
UNRESERVED BACKING."

4. WE ASSUME THAT IN THIS INSTANCE, THE INTENTION IS TO
PROVIDE VORSTER WITH A COPY OF OUR MESSAGE AFTER IT HAS
BEEN READ TO HIM.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BRIEFING MATERIALS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978CAPET01011
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780211-0583
Format: TEL
From: CAPE TOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780541/aaaabiop.tel
Line Count: 188
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Message ID: 974e8c9a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 USUN NEW YORK 2024
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Date: 02 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2642326
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NAMIBIA: DRAFT MESSAGE FOR SOUTH AFRICA
TAGS: PDEV, SF, WA
To: STATE USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/974e8c9a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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